

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Ryser et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/563,611  
Conf. No.: 1942  
Filed: January 6, 2006  
Title: CAP EXTRACTION DEVICE  
Art Unit: 1761  
Examiner: Unknown  
Docket No.: 112701-692

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 37 C.F.R. 1.97, and 37 C.F.R. 1.98, Applicants request that a citation and examination of the references cited on the enclosed PTO-1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States patent. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98, copies of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent documents are enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ [X] Within three months of filing of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.
- ☐ [ ] After the period specified above, but before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application and is accompanied by one of:
  - ☐ [ ] Payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p); or
  - ☐ [ ] The certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) follows.
- ☐ [ ] After the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application and is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) and the certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) follows.

- ☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ A copy of a Search Report from a corresponding foreign patent application is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180 to cover the required fee is enclosed.
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$180 to cover the required fee to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

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Dated: November 14, 2006

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/006672

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A47J31/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A47J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 776 527 A (BLANC JEAN PIERRE) 7 July 1998 (1998-07-07) column 4, line 20 - column 5, line 40; figures 3-6	1,6,7
X	EP 1 219 217 A (SGL ITALIA S R L) 3 July 2002 (2002-07-03) column 5, line 30 - column 6, line 50; figures 2-7	1-3,6,7, 9-15
A		4,5,8
X	US 5 755 149 A (BLANC JEAN PIERRE ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) column 5, line 42 - column 6, line 51; figures 1,2	1-3,6,7, 9-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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PCT/EP2004/006672

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